

# NICOLE PARRA



Representing the 30th Assembly District

# Parra Notes

September 4, 2006

#### **Hello Friends:**

At approximately 12:20 Friday morning the **final gavel fell on the 2005 – 2006 Legislative Session**. Over the last two years the California Legislature has **reviewed over 3000 pieces of legislation**. In the last two leeks alone we have reviewed over 800 bills, sending some to the Governor for consideration, and leaving others to be considered in the next legislative session.

I believe this has been a **very productive legislative session** that produced an **on time budget**, a bond package that will stimulate the economy and **improve California's infrastructure**, and many bills that will **bring much needed resources home to the San Joaquin Valley**.

Now that my legislative responsibilities have been completed I will be returning home to continue my work in the district. During the legislative interim I will **continue to foster relationships with my advisory groups** and begin to discus potential legislation for introduction during my third and final term in the California State Assembly.

For this reason, this will be the **final "Parra Notes" this year**. I encourage everyone to **continue communicating with my office** throughout the interim (contact information below). I am very excited to be **spending the next three months in the 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District**. I hope to see each of you while I am visiting your communities!

## **Bills on the Governor's Desk**

Below you will find a list of bills that, after a year of hard work, find themselves on the desk of Governor Schwarzenegger, who has until September 30, 2006 to act on each measure. If you would like to **express your opinion** on any these bills, write to Governor Schwarzenegger at:

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger Office of the Governor Attn: Legislative Unit California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814-3325

#### <u>AB 2886 (74-0)</u>

**AB 2886** will allow judges to decide the most appropriate punishment for individuals committing, intending to commit, or facilitating the commission of identity theft. Under the provisions of AB 2886 these crimes would become "alternate misdemeanor-felonies" and go a long way to discourage criminals from committing this crime.

*Bill Supporters:* California District Attorneys Association (sponsor), the California Credit Union League, the California Narcotic Officers' Association, and the Coalition for Quality Credit Counseling.

# AB 2586 (79-0)

**AB 2586** allows a court, at the judges' discretion, to divert veterans into alternative sentencing programs as opposed to incarceration. Under existing law that same individual could be committed to the custody of federal correctional officials for incarceration for a term equivalent to that which the defendant would have served in state prison.

Bill Supporters: Armed Forces Retirees Association of America (sponsor), Vietnam Veterans of America (co-sponsor), the National Guard Association of California, the California Association of Veterans Service Officers, the California State Commanders Veterans Council, the California Society of Addiction Medicine, the Air Force Sergeant's Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, the Marine Corps League, and the Legion of Valor.

AB 2085 (79-0) This measure would help ensure the families of deployed National Guard personnel are able to receive financial assistance while dealing with the absence of major contributors to the family's economic well-being. By reducing the required drop in income from 30% to 10% for deployed members, the window of opportunity for Guard members meeting the remaining two criteria is widened in a manner that allows greater access to the California Military Families Relief Fund.

Bill Supporters: Lieutenant Governor Cruz M. Bustamante (Sponsor) and the National Guard Association of California

<u>AB 2272 (78-0)</u>: AB 2272 would provide for a 72 hour hold on an appeal to notify the prosecuting District Attorney. The prosecuting District Attorney would best know the details of a case, and would be able to provide the appealed court with the reasons why the denial of parole the inmate should continue to be imprisoned. This 72 hour hold to notify the prosecuting District Attorney could save money on court costs.

Bill Supporters: Crime Victims United of California

<u>AB 2645 (76-1)</u>: AB 2645, which relates to sun protection, would clarify that current statute does allow students to wear hats, as protection from the sun, during physical education courses without a doctor's note or parental permission.

Bill Supporters: Superintendent, Corcoran Unified School District; Principal and Assistant Principal, John Muir Middle School

AB 2711(79-0): This measure eliminates the requirement for the Department of Financial Institutions to approve payment instruments. AB 2711 would eliminate unnecessary and burdensome regulations on businesses utilizing payment instruments while maintaining the safeguards currently required on the forms.

Bill Supporters: Money Gram International

## **MEETING REQUESTS**

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my **Executive Secretary Anna Goddard** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Anna.Goddard@asm.ca.gov">Anna.Goddard@asm.ca.gov</a>.

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# **INTERNS WANTED**

I am accepting applications for the internship program in my **Hanford**, **Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the **30th Assembly District**, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the **Central Valley**. Applications can be found by going to: <a href="http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30">http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30</a>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Richard Valle** at (559) 585-7170 or by e-mail at Richard. Valle@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Nerissa Robinson** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Nerissa.Robinson@asm.ca.gov

For Sacramento office internships contact **Brandon Sanders** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at <u>Brandon.Sanders@asm.ca.gov</u>.

**Bakersfield Office:** 601 24th St.,

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